

Crossing

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MESSAGE FROM

The Crossing Staff

As the Spring Semester comes to a close and as many of you enter another important phase of your life, please let us congratulate all of you on your success and triumph in the past and wish you the very best in the future.

Working towards the future is never easy. Unpredictable challenges and changing environment are an intricate part of the journey into the future. However, your diligence, determination and dedication will yield the fruit of success.

As our way of expressing thanks for the opportunity to serve you and extending best wishes for your future, we feature some of Roxbury Community College's students in this issue.

Bon Voyage

The Crossing Staff

Honor's Assembly

On April 26, 1994, the College held its 21st Honor Assembly. 141 students were honored for their outstanding academic achievements. 60 students received scholarship awards. Nursing student Vernon Dingwall received a special Community Service Scholarship.

This honor assembly is also a celebration of the College's 20 years of commitment and dedication to the diverse community it serves.

As President Brown said, "We are a little United Nations." This statement was very well symbolized by the greetings that were read in English, Arabic, Spanish, Creole and Chinese at the assembly.

Marilyn Anderson Chase, the keynote speaker of the assembly,



Four RCC students read assembly greetings in English, Arabic, Spanish, Creole and Chinese

challenged all RCC students to "believe in our dreams enough to strive for excellence." Throughout her inspiring speech, she conveyed the message that "if you dare to dream with patience, perseverance and determination, you will make it happen."

Jianping Wang x5361

Honor students at the 21st Honors Assembly



Student Profile

In order to understand what some of our students are thinking nowadays Crossing Staff member Jeremy Ryan interviewed Phyllis A. Jones, an honor student here at RCC. The following is an excerpt from the interview

Name: Phyllis A. Jones

Hometown: Ahoskie, NC

Major: Legal Secretary

Current Residency (Town):
Roxbury, MA

Q. What has been your most memorable experience at Roxbury Community College?

A. Thus far, making the President's List twice (both Spring and Fall Semesters '93) and being recognized for this achievement by the Honor's Assembly.

Q. How has RCC helped you prepare for the future?

A. RCC has increased my level of self-esteem that I have within myself. Also, it has sharpened my awareness of the problems, and possible solutions that are within our society today. In addition, it has improved my relationships and interactions with people.

Q. What sports teams or

school organizations do you belong to?

A. I am too busy with my "books" to find the free time for sports or school organizations.

Q. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

A. Watching public TV programs. (Such as: The Joy of Painting, the Victory Garden, and The Frugal Gourmet). Also, I enjoy knitting, reading a variety of books, and going to movies.

Q. What cause(s) do you strongly believe in and why?

A. 1. Pro-choice. The reason I believe in pro-choice is that I think every woman should have the right (as well as the privilege) to decide on issues concerning her own body, including abortion.

2. The Gun-control Bill. Something needs to be done (enforced) in hopes of trying to decrease the use of guns in today's society.

Q. What are your plans for the future after attending RCC?

A. I am anticipating on transferring to UMASS Boston, for the Spring Semester of 1995. Or the possibility of attending Suffolk University (Spring '95) instead.

Q. How do you feel about the rise in urban violence?

A. The rise of violence in our urban cities today has reached an all time high. It is very frightening for me to see our "kids" being killed, or the killing of innocent people. We, as a society, must do positive things that hopefully will decrease the violence within our cities and towns.

Q. Why did you chose the major that you did?



Phyllis A. Jones

Scholarship Recipient

A. All aspects of the legal environment are new dimensions for me. This field is one that I find to be full of interesting and challenging possibilities. I have the interest of learning more about the legal system, and how I can contribute something to society as a result.

Q. What influenced you in attending RCC to further your education?

- A. 1. The convenient location of the campus.
2. the "Financial-aid package" that I received.
3. The diversity of the present student body.
4. The positive recommendations that I received from my friends who have attended RCC in the past.

Q. How important is the value of education to you?

A. Education to me is a very important element in the success of achieving your goals and dreams. Without an education, it would be increasingly difficult for you to climb "the ladder of success." Also, education is the key that unlocks the world of opportunities that are available to all of us.

Q. Who is your hero?

A. My elder sister, Carolyn Porter, whom I admire enormously.

Q. What historical figures do you most admire and why?

A. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Due to his ability to 'up-lift' the moral of the Black people in a way that has symbolized a positive change for the betterment of ourselves and within a society in general.

Q. What career do you see yourself in ten years from now?

- A. As a successful paralegal in a prestigious law firm.

Q. What is your opinion on the state of the government today?

A. The state of our government is not of the best working order, as it once was. There are many things (such as homelessness, poverty, unemployment, etc.) that needs to be addressed by the government. Despite its faults and short-comings, we have to try to survive within the system to the best of our ability.

Q. If you are asked to leave a piece of advice for the under-classmen beginning their journey here at RCC in the fall, what exactly will you say?

A. Take your education very seriously, and with the intent of becoming successful in obtaining your degree and accomplishing your personal goals. Study hard, and do not be afraid or hesitant in asking for help when you need it.

Q. What do you believe to be RCC's greatest strengths?

- A. 1. Professional, caring, and co-operative teaching staff.
2. The offering (to eligible students) of an "impressive" financial-aid package.
3. Its ability to survive the many hardships and difficulties in continuing to be a valuable learning institution for primarily people of color.

Q. What mottos do you live by, if you have one?

- A. "Don't worry, be happy!"

Jeremy Ryan x5502

My name is Vernon Dingwall. I am a first year nursing student at RCC. I am also a critical care technician in the Medical Intensive Care Unit at MGH. The patients who are admitted to this unit are seriously ill. Both they and their families require intensive emotional and physical care. In the fall of 1993 Charlie Westcott (an active attorney in his 60's from Belmont MA) was admitted to the MICU in very serious condition following an cardiac arrest. This began the emotional roller coaster for the patient, family and health care providers.

I first met Mrs. Westcott as she was trying to get batteries into a cassette player. The radio was her way soothing her husband and being helpful. I immediately warmed up to her sense of humor, and she to mine. With each passing day we shared experiences and stories. We found comfort in each others company. I only wish there could have been a happier ending. Mr. Westcott passed away, after 1 month. But Mrs. Westcott, the remarkable woman that she is, in remembrance of husband, spoke at the Roxbury Community College Honors Assembly and bestowed upon me a scholarship. It was her way of saying thank you and is greatly appreciated. But I have to admit that there were others. If it were not for educational I received at MGH and here at RCC, I could not have aided Mrs. Westcott and her family. I give my sincere thanks to the Nursing Staff of the MICU at MGH and faculty here at RCC.

Sincerely,
Vernon G. Dingwall

SGA News

A Message from the SGA President

Dear Roxbury Community College Community:

The school year is rapidly coming to a halt and being met with lots of uncertainty. Whether you are graduating, planning for summer and fall courses or just planning, I wish you well.

This academic year has certainly been a learning experience for myself as well as the SGA board. The SGA board has met every challenge and concern of the students we represent to the best of our ability. I will remain totally indebted and respectful to them. Valerie Phillips, our Student Trustee, went far and beyond her call of duty in service to the college at large. Under the guidance of Assistant Dean Sampson-Russell, student government and academic life came smoother.

Many concerns on the college campus were well resolved, with the help of student representation. Thank you Dave Sealy & Tomas Gonzales (to name a few). Some issues went unresolved, but I am confident the new student leadership will continue to "steer the ship" in the direction that will be for the educational advancement of the college.

The administration of the college has certainly grown and is continuing to grow along with the culture of the college. Many of them have given me the opportunities to grow and view life ahead after academia, and for that I thank them. I found that together we learned the importance of communication within our surroundings.

To the faculty and staff who were the "chief instruments" in forming and promoting my educational prowess, I remain indebted to you.

Lastly and most importantly my peers, the students who supported me, and are responsible for my plight in making higher education a better way out, I give you my highest praises. Whether we were studying or just "hanging out", I will hold these memories of our educational pursuit fondly. I wish you well as we all close a chapter of our lives and begin a new one. Make it happen!!!!

*With Gratitude,
Ambrose A. Davis
President
Student Government Association*

Employee *Profile*

My name is Annette Douglan, a native Bostonian, working as the new Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Fiscal and Management Affairs. I have held this position since February 14, 1994.

I joined Roxbury Community



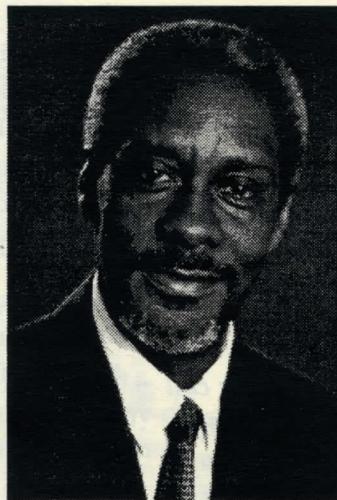
College after holding a temporary assignment in this office early in 1993. As a temporary employee, I was fortunate to work with the new executive administration as they began to establish priorities with dedication and spirit, unselfishly devoting themselves to the integrity of the College and the survival and education of the young people in the community.

Until now, my professional experience has been with Fortune 500 companies giving little thought to the community which nurtured my spirit. Like many of my colleagues, I wanted to give back to this community, and it is my hope that I can contribute to the efforts of the many multi-talented staff members I work with daily in realizing these goals.

Annette Douglan x5304

Prime Minister of Jamaica Visits RCC

Roxbury Community College was the first stop on the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Dr. P. J. Patterson, to Boston. The Jamaican Reality Work Group of RCC's Caribbean Focus Program honored the Prime Minister at a Reception in the RCC cafeteria. About 200 students, faculty and community leaders attended the function which included Jamaican and other refreshments and music performed by Jamaican children and adults. Students of the RCC Caribbean Club served as ushers and servers and were prominent in their bright RCC Caribbean club t-shirts. Club Sponsor, Prof. Herbert Thomas, and club president, student Nickey Mais, also welcomed the Prime Minister. President Brown presented Prime Minister Patterson with gifts and pointed out the importance of this college for immigrant communities from the Caribbean and elsewhere. Other welcoming the Prime Minister included Senator Dianne Wilkerson and a Representative of the African Meeting House. In his



talk, Dr. Patterson talked of the appropriateness of Roxbury Community College as his first stop because of its unique Caribbean constituency and programs. He also emphasized the common cause of empowerment and democracy for blacks and others throughout the world, singling out South Africa and Haiti as important

examples, and pointing out connections between Jamaica, RCC and those struggles. Other honored guests included Haitian Consul-General Jean Geneus, Representatives Gloria Fox, Shirley Owens-Hicks and Althea Garrison, City Counselor Gareth Saunders and representatives of the RCC Board of Trustees, the RCC Foundation Board and the RCC Student Government Association. Prime Minister Patterson is the third Caribbean head of state to participate in the Caribbean Focus series of prominent Caribbean leaders and scholars.

Tom Reeves x5151

Legislative Briefing

On April 28, 1994, the College held its 1994 Legislative Briefing. President Brown and her cabinet welcomed 9 legislators and their aides. The College's needs for the state support were clearly heard. Senator Dianne Wilkerson, on behalf of all legislators present, expressed great satisfaction with the College's progresses and strong confidence in the College's future. Thomas Finneran, Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, delivered special remarks on RCC's budget request. All of them pledged utmost support for the College.

Jianping Wang x5361

Board Retreat

On April 2, 1994, the Board of Trustees had a successful retreat. Seven guests from the state legislative system and state public higher education system joined the board and the College staff. President Brown, Vice Presidents Bruce Rose and Charles Rubin reported on the College's progress in all fronts, particularly in the academic and fiscal affairs. The Retreat helped promote the vision of the College. It provided an excellent opportunity for the communication between the state legislative officers, board of trustees and the College staff. The Retreat also made the college staff more aware of the political environment within which the College operates. All of these will have a very positive impact on the future of the College.

Jianping Wang x5361

Student News

Schindler's List

Thanks to a generous donation from the Anti-Defamation League and the coordination of Faye Sampson-Russell, the students of Roxbury Community College and its Boston Business School Campus were given the opportunity to see the movie "Schindler's List" free of charge.

The following are excerpts from essays written by the ESL students from the Boston Business School Campus in response to the movie.

Rimma Alman

"This film has become a wonderful monument depicting the tragedy of the Jewish people."

Mikhail Alman

"My two grandfathers and grandmothers, many aunts and cousins were shot by Germans. So, I know about the Holocaust not from books or movies, but from my life. It was a tragedy of humanity not only for the Jewish people."

S. Breude

"My wife and I were shocked after seeing the film "Schindler's List." My relatives and my grandmother were taken and killed by German soldiers in 1941. This happened in Ukraine."

L. Mogan

"This film is very important now because the new generation does not know about the Holocaust in Europe. They do not know about the tragedy of European Jews."

Mikhail Gozman

"The movie "Schindler's List" shows the actions of the German Nazis called the "Holocaust" in the years of the Second World War, 1941-45."

Ben Taksir

"At first he (Schindler) wants to get rich. Then he becomes a defender of the Jews."

Khana Mayblyum

"Six million Jewish men, women and children were murdered by the Nazis between 1933-1945. Oscar Schindler was a real person who saved 1, 100 Jewish people by placing them on his list. Schindler was a fascist and a Nazi, but he helped the Jewish people. Steven Spielberg, with this film, says that the Holocaust will not be forgotten and will not be repeated."

D. Vaynbaum

"Oscar Schindler's actions call all people of the world to love mankind."

Abram Ludin

"I know the meaning of the War, not because of movies, but because I lived in Leningrad when World War II began in Russia in 1941. Hitler's troops circled the City, bombing and shooting. The hunger was beginning and my grandmother died. My grandfather and another grandmother were killed in the concentration camp in the Ukraine. I know the meaning of concentration camps in the Ukraine. I know the meaning of concentration camps—"Hatyn" in Byelorussia and "Baby Jar" in Ukraine where thousand of Jews were killed."

"TO SAVE ONE LIFE IS TO SAVE THE WORLD"

*Compiled and Edited by
Charlotte Belezos
ESL Faculty
787-5600*

Student Activities Announcement

- Graduation ceremony will take place on Friday, June 3rd, 1994 at 3PM, in the Media/Arts Auditorium. The commencement speaker is Congressman, Floyd Flake, Democrat from the 6th Congressional District of New York. Congressman Flake delivered the invocation and benediction at the first RCC graduation in 1975.

For graduating students, tickets for the ceremony will be available in the Office of Student Activities beginning May 16. Caps and gowns will be available for purchase on May 24 and 25 from 11:00AM-2:00PM and May 26 from 5:00PM-6:30PM in the Student Center Lounge on the first floor.

Rehearsal for graduation will be held on Thursday, June 2nd at 1:00PM in the Media & Arts Auditorium. All graduates are expected to attend.

- The annual Class Night festivities will occur on Saturday, May 21 aboard the M/V Commonwealth which will sail through Boston Harbor from 8:00PM-Midnight. Tickets are available for sale in the Office of Student Activities.

Special Award

Graduating Nursing student Lanisja Summons received a special recognition award from Massachusetts Black Legislative Caucus on April 29, 1994. Congratulations to you Lanisja.

Jianping Wang X5361

News and Updates

Faculty News

Professor Angel Amy-Moreno's article, "The Influence of the Taino Language in Caribbean Spanish," has been published by the Community College Humanities Review, Special edition, The Encounter, 1492-1650, Fall, 1993. This Journal is the official publication of the Community College Humanities Association, located in Philadelphia, PA.

In addition, the University of Massachusetts Press has invited Professor Amy-Moreno to publish An Oral History of the Puerto Rican Vietnam Veteran. This project has been supported in part by the Joiner Center for the Study of War and its Social Consequences, at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. Congratulations to Dr. Amy-Moreno for his professional contributions to the field of history. Roxbury Community College feels very proud of his endeavors.

- Professor Virginia DeAngelis, Boston Business School Campus, received her doctorate from the University of Lowell recently. Congratulations!

- The Department of Nursing's Class of 1994 will hold their Pinning Ceremony on Saturday, May 21, 1994 at 4PM in the Media Arts Building. The featured speaker will be JoAnn Mulready-Shick, RN, MSN, Nursing faculty.

20th Year
ROXBURY
At The Crossing
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

*Multicultural
Celebration
Will Celebrate
20th Anniversary*

President Brown has announced that the College will host a Multicultural Celebration as one of the final events of the 20th Anniversary. "Bridges to the World: 20 years...at the Crossing" will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 1994 in the Student Center beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Celebration will feature ethnic foods, music, and visual displays representing various cultures. Dress for the event is semi-formal, business attire, and most preferable multicultural attire. Attendees are strongly encouraged to represent their heritage and culture through dress. Tickets for the event are \$15 for students, \$25 for faculty, staff, and alumni, and \$40 for the general public. Sponsorship tickets will also be available. Invitations will be mailed beginning Tuesday, May 10th.

*For more information contact
Ashley C. McCumber at x5305.*

Calendar of Events

May 1994

Saturday May 7, 1994

Coalition of Family Concerns Kiddy Extravaganza: A Tribute To Mother's Day

1:00-2:30 p.m. (Early Show)

3:00-4:30 p.m. (Late Show)

Admission: \$3.00

Tuesday May 10, 1994

Boston Aging Concerns Conference

8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Thursday May 12, 1994

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Initiation

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Monday May 16, 1994

Citizens for Juvenile Justice Conference

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Saturday May 21, 1994

Bridging Bridges/ Mentoring Program

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

RCC Nursing Association Pinning Ceremony

4:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Thursday May 26, 1994

Dana Farber Cancer Institute/ Conference

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Fri. May 27, 1994

CORAMA Latin Folklore Concert

8:00 p.m.-Midnight

Admission: \$20.00



CROSSING STAFF

From Left to Right

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